

Document 432 of 576**ENVELOPE**

CDSN = LGX634 MCN = 93333/09087 TOR = 933331210
RTTUZYUW RUEKJCS5267 3331211-UUUU--RUEALGX.
ZNR UUUUU

HEADER

R 291211Z NOV 93
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RUFGAID/USEUCOM AIDES VAIHINGEN GE
RUFQBBA/US SURVEY SHAPE BE
RHHJMCY/JICPAC HONOLULU HI
RUCIAEA/FASTC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OH//SCIR//
RUCMACC/CDRPSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//AORC-POG-SB//
RUCBSAA/CINCUSACOM NORFOLK VA//J2//
RUWSMXI/AMC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//IN//
RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL
RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2//
RUFTAKC/UDITDUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE
RULKQAN/MARCORINTACT DET QUANTICO VA
RULSJGA/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC
RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
RUEALGX/SAFE
R 291141Z NOV 93
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP:RSA/POW-MIA//
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3042
INFO RUAGOTC/CINCUNC SEOUL
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//
RUEAHOF/CDRPERSCOM ALEX VA//TAPC-PEZ/DAPE-ZB-TFR-H//
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC/[REDACTED]
RUEHSK/AMEMBASSY MINSK 6023
BT

(b) (3)

CONTROLS

UNCLAS MOSCOW 037078

DEPT FOR EUR/ISCA AND EAP

E.O. 12356: N/A

BODY

TAGS: KPOW, MOPS, PREL, PHUM, RS
SUBJECT: POW/MIA: FURTHER INFORMATION ON PFC
MILTON LAWSON.

REFTEL MOSCOW 20434

1. ON NOVEMBER 17 TFR CHIEF WAS INFORMED BY LTC OSIPOV OF A SOURCE WHO CLAIMED CONTACT WITH A U.S. BUSINESS PARTNER WHO COULD PROVIDE INFORMATION FROM A VIDEOTAPE ABOUT AN ALLEGED AMERICAN KOREAN WAR POW HELD IN A SOVIET CAMP. TFR AND OSIPOV MET THE RUSSIAN CONTACT AND TRAVELLED TO CONTACT'S HOME ON LENINSKIY PROSPECT. CONTACT'S NAME IS: VADIM I. CHERTKO (138-11-41).

2. LTC OSIPOV DEFERRED TO TFR TO CONDUCT THE INTERVIEW. THE AMERICAN CITIZEN RECOUNTED HIS JULY 1950 MOBILIZATION AS PLATOON LEADER WITH HIS USMC UNIT. HE WAS SENT TO KOREA IN SEPTEMBER 1950 (1ST MARINE DIVISION). HE SAID THE VIDEOTAPE WAS A FRENCH VIDEO ON PERM 35, SHOWN ON ABC-TV, WITH COMMENTARY BY MIKE WALLACE AND ANATOLIY SCHARANSKY. HE SHOWED THE INTERVIEWERS PRINTS OF "SHCHEGOL" -- ALLEGEDLY MILTON LAWSON, A FORMER MEMBER OF HIS PLATOON WHO FOR A TIME LIVED WITH THE AMERICAN CITIZEN BEFORE BOTH WERE MOBILIZED FOR KOREA SERVICE. THE AMERICAN CITIZEN EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS THAT THE PRISONER IN THE VIDEO/STILLS IS LAWSON, BUT HE SAID THAT THE PERSON IS SIMILAR IN APPEARANCE TO A COMPUTER AGED PHOTO OF LAWSON. THE AMERICAN CITIZEN SAID HE HOPED TO ELICIT SUPPORT IN RUSSIA TO DETERMINE THE IDENTITY OF THE PERSON ON BEHALF OF LAWSON'S NEXT OF KIN, HIS SISTER AND BROTHER. THE AMERICAN CITIZEN POINTED OUT THAT, OF ALL THE PRISONERS IN THE VIDEO, ONLY THIS ONE IS SEEN, BUT NOT HEARD TO SPEAK.

3. TFR ADVISED THE AMERICAN CITIZEN THAT WE ARE AWARE OF THE VIDEO, OF THE PHOTOS, AND OF THE ALLEGED IDENTIFICATION OF LAWSON AS A PRISONER. TFR SAID THAT WE ARE TOLD BY FORMER RUSSIAN SUPREME SOVIET DEPUTY SMIRNOV THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS LIVING IN BELARUS, WHICH WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO CONFIRM THROUGH EMBASSY MINSK.
(REFTEL)

4. THE AMERICAN CITIZEN SAYS THAT HE IS PREPARED TO TRAVEL AT HIS EXPENSE WHEREVER NECESSARY TO MEET "SHCHEGOL" IF THE COMMISSION CAN LOCATE HIM. HE AVERS THAT HE IS SO WELL ACQUAINTED WITH LAWSON THAT HE WILL KNOW IN ONLY MINUTES WHETHER "SHCHEGOL" IS INDEED LAWSON.

5. OSIPOV SUGGESTED THAT U.S. SIDE RECONTACT THE RUSSIAN SIDE WITH AN INQUIRY CONCERNING THE PROBABLE IDENTITY OF THE PRISONER AT PERM 35 AS

SHOWN IN THE PHOTO. TFR BELIEVES WE HAVE CONFUSED NICKNAME "SHCHEGOL" (EMPHASIS ON LAST SYLLABLE - MEANS "GOLDFINCH" BUT IS USED IN CAMP SLANG TO REFER TO A STOOL-PIGEON) WITH "SCHOEBOL" WHICH IS WHAT WE BELIEVED PRISONER'S FAMILY NAME TO BE. TFR WILL RECONTACT OSIPOV AS HE SUGGESTED TO ATTEMPT TO CLARIFY INFORMATION ON THE ALLEGED "LAWSON"/"SCHOEBOL"/"SHCHEGOL".

6. TASK FORCE RUSSIA SENDS. PICKERING

ADMIN

BT

#5267

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